

Table 8. **BENCHMARK MEASURES FOR HIGH PRIORITY ACTIVITIES TO TRACK PROGRESS TOWARD LWRM PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

ENERGY CONSERVATION & WASTE REDUCTION

<p>Goal 1 - Develop, support and advance county initiatives that conserve energy & reduce waste, and serve as a catalyst for broader community efforts to conserve energy, limit carbon emissions, and increase renewable energy production.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 1 - Develop and implement a county energy conservation program for county operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consider and adopt county energy conservation plan. •Apply the plan to systematically record and monitor energy use and to identify, select and implement energy conservation projects. •Establish energy conservation education and outreach program to inform the public and other municipalities of energy conservation savings and opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Annual Report of energy use and conservation activities.
<p>Objective 2 - Encourage alternative energy production that uses wind, waste stream bi-products, or biomass generated from agricultural or forestry operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Design and implement pilot project to determine the feasibility of using local bio-mass as a fuel source for local heat, fuel, or electrical energy production. •Design and implement a pilot project to determine the feasibility of producing renewable electrical energy from distributed sources, including manure digesters and small-scale farmstead-based wind generators. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Assess interest by local electrical utilities and farm organizations to explore and evaluate technology. -Prepare a project proposal that includes funding and site selection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written pilot project proposal. -Written survey and report of compiled survey responses. -Project proposal with budget, funding sources installation and operational commitments and an implementation schedule.
<p>Objective 3 - Develop and administer recycling and solid waste management programs that reduce, reuse, and ensure the proper disposal of waste materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maintain role as Responsible Unit Coordinator for municipalities. •Conduct a benchmark study to evaluate the effectiveness of current household and institutional recycling programs; and to evaluate the cost efficiency of existing Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF's) in Chippewa County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Research and compile information on existing facilities. -Develop RFP to prepare a cost/benefit analysis on the feasibility of maintaining and expanding municipal-owned MRF's. •Design and implement a project to collect and market office paper from all public and county-owned facilities. •Systematically enforce the Chippewa County Recycling Ordinance to assure compliance at all public facilities including public parks, campgrounds, ball fields and facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written benchmark study documenting the current status. -Written report documenting current recycling rates. -RFP and service contract to document the reviews/ expenses of existing MRF's and feasibility of expansion.

LAND CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

<p>Goal 2. Develop and administer conservation programs that preserve the land, support sustainable production, provide biodiversity, and protect the natural ecology.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 1. Support the efforts of individual landowners, private nonprofit conservation organizations, and local municipalities to preserve productive "working lands".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Actively administer and support landowner participation in the WI Farmland Preservation Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Conduct NR151 evaluations and provide technical services to all new and existing program participants. -Conduct annual reporting and certification process to verify landowner compliance. •Develop and implement a "working lands" pilot project to evaluate and advance County options for farmland protection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Prepare a project proposal through the Wis. Working Lands Initiative to define the scope, purpose, and means to evaluate a pilot project. -Prepare and enter 66.03 municipal agreements and M.O.U.'s with participating municipalities and public agencies. -Prepare and submit project budget and grant proposals. •Revise and update the Chippewa County Farmland Plan in association with State efforts to update WI Stats. 91 and the State Farmland Preservation Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify the location, size and boundaries of working land conservation areas through use of Town or county-based planning processes, and landowner registries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Written project proposal. -Signed 66.03 agreements and M.O.U.'s. -Project budget and written grant application.
<p>Objective 2. Support the efforts of individual landowners, private nonprofit conservation organizations, and municipalities to preserve unique lands with high public value, or those that contain threatened or endangered species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Actively administer and maintain the Chippewa County Stewardship Program to support the acquisition of land and/or conservation easements by municipalities or nonprofit organizations for conservation purposes. •Develop and enter working agreements between the county and nonprofit conservation org. to clarify appropriate roles and responsibilities with regard to land and easement acquisition and ongoing custodial management. •With private, nonprofit conservation organizations, define the location of high priority conservation areas having significant public value or unique ecological significance. •In cooperation with nonprofit conservation organizations, maintain a wild lakes registry for undeveloped lakes as a companion to the Wisconsin Scientific and Natural Areas Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Annual public notice and solicitation of matching grant proposals. •Public meeting agendas and minutes. •GIS map showing locations of priority conservation areas.

LAND CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

<p>Goal 2. Develop and administer conservation programs that preserve the land, support sustainable production, provide biodiversity, and protect the natural ecology, con't.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 3. Encourage biodiversity and sustainable agriculture, forestry, and biomass production on private lands by providing technical assistance and conservation program services to landowners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support the efforts of major farm and forestry organizations to compile, market, and monitor carbon credits as part of sustainable operations. •Administer educational services, technical services, and financial incentives to agricultural producers through State/Federal agricultural conservation and nonpoint pollution control programs. •Administer educational services, technical services, and financial incentives to woodland producers through local producer networks, woodland management organizations, and State/Federal forestry programs. •Provide technical services to the owners and operators of non-metallic mines, abandoned mines, and brown fields to reclaim disturbed sites and achieve end land uses that are productive and sustainable. •Administer the Wisconsin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to establish stream and wetland buffers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Letter of interest to farm and forestry organizations. •Written report documenting potential County role and cost/benefits. •Written report documenting number, type and location of CREP buffer contracts; seek 10-15/yr.
<p>Objective 4. Encourage biodiversity and sustainable forest and biomass production on public lands by supporting the efforts of the custodial agencies responsible for developing and administering property management plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •On county forest lands managed by Chippewa County, identify areas of unique ecological significance and apply the County Forest Plan to manage and monitor these areas. •On public lands managed by State agencies, actively participate in the public participation process used to develop and revise management plans. 	
<p>Objective 5. Protect and buffer the existing public land base by pursuing conservation easements, or fee title purchase options on select parcels located within and immediately adjacent the designated blocking boundaries of public forests, parks, or conservation management areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Implement a project to identify select parcels of high environmental or ecologic value located within or adjacent public land management areas. •Contact landowners to explain options for permanent resource protection through use of conservation easements or fee title sale. 	
<p>Objective 6. Support efforts by public agencies and nonprofit conservation organizations to inventory and control invasive species (upland and aquatic).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Participate in information exchange and networking opportunities to raise public awareness and monitor invasive species populations. 	

WATER CONSERVATION

<p>Goal 3. Develop, support, and implement water conservation programs to maintain current aquifer volumes and to protect the county's drinking water supply.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 1. Develop and implement conservation programs that protect wetlands, restore natural hydrology and drainage, and improve store water storage capacity, soil infiltration and groundwater recharge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Administer and support programs to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands. •Develop a project proposal to restore natural hydrology and create depressions for groundwater recharge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify areas or compile existing locations of groundwater recharge. -Develop project outline and budget to restore or enhance natural hydrology; include permanent protection options. •Develop a project proposal to explore the costs and benefits of establishing a county-based wetland mitigation bank. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written project proposal identifying the location, time frame, costs and funding sources, budget and implementation schedule. -GIS map showing the location of project areas and target sites.
<p>Objective 2. Establish a groundwater and baseflow monitoring program to monitor and record groundwater elevations and associated stream baseflow conditions at representative locations throughout the county.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Compile existing information of record to document historic groundwater elevations and fluctuations in local aquifers. •Develop a project design and grant proposal to install and maintain a monitoring network. 	
<p>Objective 3. Actively encourage and support the development of water conservation programs to maintain public and private water supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support the efforts of municipalities that implement wellhead protection planning projects and programs. •Develop a project design and grant proposal to develop a model municipal water conservation plan that could be readily applied to other municipalities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Solicit interest from cities and villages that provide municipal water. -Prepare project proposal that includes timeline and budget. -Work with select municipality on implementation of pilot project. 	

WATER CONSERVATION

Goal 3. Develop, support, and implement water conservation programs to maintain current aquifer volumes and to protect the county's drinking water supply, con't.	Benchmark Products
<p>Objective 4. Improve the county's capacity to monitor changes in groundwater chemistry using existing well testing programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Maintain the existing Chippewa County rural groundwater inventory and monitoring program.•For public water supply wells routinely sampled by the county, create a GIS data base that matches well locations to existing water quality records; GPS the location of wells currently sampled; maintain the record as part of the Chippewa County groundwater inventory.•Develop a project design for a long-term groundwater monitoring project using a subset of 1985 and 2007 inventory sample points to assess current and long-range trends as they affect the rural water supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Annual report and GIS map.•New GIS layer and associated database showing locations of public water supply wells and groundwater chemistry.

NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

<p>Goal 4. Develop and administer nonpoint sources of water pollution control programs to pursue State and local water quality objectives.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 1. Administer the NR151 agricultural nonpoint source pollution control performance standards on a county-wide basis, using authority of WI Stats. 59, 92, 281 and Administrative Rules NR115, NR243, NR151 AND ATCP 50.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess interest on behalf of the major farm organizations to implement an educational outreach, project to inform ag producers, rural landowners and the general public about the performance standards and the county's program to administer them. •Administer a voluntary farm evaluation and certification program following the practices and management approach established in this plan. •Implement a well-defined county regulatory framework to enforce the NR151 standards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Evaluate and update the DNR/County MOU that clarifies the local/state regulatory framework, and the role of the county and state under NR243 permitting and enforcement authorities. •Actively participate in the Wisconsin WPDES Permitting Processes administered by DNR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written farm evaluation reports documenting results of new farm evaluations; seek 10-20/yr. •Letters of request and self certification forms for all program participants subject to compliance. •Written annual activity report summarizing the status of NR151 farm evaluations and compliance. •GIS map showing the location of parcels evaluated and meeting standards.
<p>Objective 2. Administer the nonagricultural nonpoint pollution control performance standards on a county-wide basis using the authority of WI Stats. 92, 281 and Administrative Rules NR103, NR115 and NR 216.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review and revise the existing working agreement between Chippewa County and DNR as it applies to stormwater plan review in unincorporated areas, subject to NR216 permit requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Revised and executed working agreement.
<p>Objective 3. Administer a joint stormwater management program that meets EPA and NR216 stormwater permit requirements, with affected municipalities in the Chippewa Falls Urban Area to meet requirements of WPDES Permit #WI-WO50121-1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Administer components of the joint program following process and commitments defined in the stormwater plan and Chapter 66.03 agreement between Chippewa County, the Village of Lake Hallie, and the Towns of Eagle Point and Lafayette. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written and electronic annual report to DNR and permitted municipalities.

NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Goal 4. Develop and administer nonpoint sources of water pollution control programs to pursue State and local water quality objectives, con't.	Benchmark Products
<p>Objective 4. Support State efforts to pursue water quality objectives through the development and implementation of TMDL limits in designated EPA 319 watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Participate in a DNR sponsored effort to implement TMDL's that have been developed for the Little Lake Wissota Watershed.<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Develop a TMDL watershed implementation plan to establish a project time frame, roles and responsibilities, anticipated costs, funding commitments and measures of performance.-Develop and enter formal working agreements and service contracts with participating municipalities and funding agencies. •Participate in a DNR sponsored TMDL planning process to develop TMDL's for Moon Bay of Lake Wissota and Otter Lake.	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

<p>Goal 5. Facilitate community-based land use planning, and develop and administer local ordinances that address local needs and augment the community's voluntary conservation efforts.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 1. Track the location and rate of new development in unincorporated areas using approved subdivision plats, certified survey maps, and new well permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maintain current Chippewa County well permit mapping and Chippewa County Groundwater Inventory GIS database. •Establish and implement a land division mapping and tracking procedures to monitor the location and rate of development in unincorporated areas of the county. 	
<p>Objective 2. Provide opportunities for greater communication and cooperation in land use planning and land use regulation between the county, towns, cities, and villages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sponsor periodic land use educational conferences to encourage communication and provide information of value to town and county officials. 	
<p>Objective 3. Provide ongoing planning, administrative, and enforcement services to towns that participate in County Comprehensive Zoning, and to towns or other municipalities that have entered agreements or contracts for specified services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provide information and educational support to towns regarding procedures to develop and implement town based comprehensive plans and ordinances. •Provide information, educational support, and consultation to towns that have adopted comprehensive plans to assist them to develop, administer, and enforce local ordinances. 	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

<p>Goal 5. Facilitate community-based land use planning, and develop and administer local ordinances that address local needs and augment the community's voluntary conservation efforts.</p>	<p>Benchmark Products</p>
<p>Objective 4. Systematically review and update selected county land use and environmental ordinances to be consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan, and State Administrative Rule changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Initiate a "comprehensive revision" to the County Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Set schedule; formally notify all towns of revision process (WI Stats. 59.69(5)). -Finalize pallet of standardized zoning districts, seek town comment. -Assist towns to select districts to be applied within its jurisdiction. If necessary, customize the selected districts for each town to create a unique pallet for the town. -Assist towns to develop and submit a revised town zoning map which will define which districts are proposed for which locations. -Hold public hearings. -From those now participating in the County Comprehensive Zoning, accept town request for adoption or dismissal within the statutory review period. •Develop a Storm Water Management and Construction Site Erosion Control Ordinance to meet requirements of the Chippewa Falls Urban Area Permit, #WI-SO50121-1. •Evaluate and revised the County Recycling Ordinance and Litter Ordinance. •Evaluate and revise the County Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance. •Evaluated and revise the County Animal Waste Mgt. Ordinance to reflect changes in NR151 and ATCP 50. (LCD/Zoning) •Develop a revised Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to meet local needs and to reflect changes in NR115. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Revised Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance submitted for town and committee consideration. •Stormwater ordinance submitted for committee consideration. •Revised Recycling and Litter Ordinance submitted for committee consideration. •Revised Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance submitted for committee consideration. •Revised Shoreland Zoning Ordinance submitted for committee consideration.

Note 1: Activities to pursue program objectives are prioritized for implementation, as placed on the quarterly project schedule. High priority initiatives for 2010 are highlighted.

